

All About Dogs

Tips, Songs, and Rhymes for Parents and Caregivers

Here are ideas and activities to try this week with your child. Each activity is based on one of the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles of early literacy development and is designed to engage your child, stimulate his or her literacy skills, and enhance the bonds between you.

- **SHARE BOOKS** Share nonfiction books about dogs (or another pet). Discuss words that are new to your child.
- **SHARE WORDS** Whenever you are reading to your child and encounter a word that will be new to her, explain it in context (rather than changing it to another word she might know.)
- **SHARE RHYMES** Share some familiar nursery rhymes about dogs, such as “Hey, Diddle, Diddle,” and “Old Mother Hubbard.”
- **SHARE SONGS** There are many classic songs about dogs. In addition to the ones we sang in storytime, you can share others, including “How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?” “Do Your Ears Hang Low?” and “Bingo.”
- **SHARE STORIES** When you are in the car with your child (or riding on a bus), ask him to retell a familiar story or make up a story about something he is seeing out the window.
- **SHARE PLAYTIME** Kids love to pretend and use their imaginations. Have your child act like a pet dog, with you as the owner. Teach your “dog” to roll over, sit, shake, stay, beg, etc.
- **SHARE WRITING** Have your child draw a picture of a dog and ask her to tell a story about the dog. With her permission, write her story under the picture so that she can see you write the words.

Here are the words to the songs and rhymes that you and your child enjoyed today. By continuing to sing, chant, and play with your child throughout the week, you will help him or her make sense of the new information and concepts introduced at storytime.

Songs

Moving Hands

(sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”)

Put your hands on your head, *(Suit actions to words)*

Put your hands on your knees,

Put your hands behind you now,

If you please.

Put your hands on your tummy,

Put your hands on your toes,

Put your hands upon your cheeks,

Put them on your nose.

Put your hands in the air,

Put your hands on your hair,

Clap your hands, one, two, three,

Then fold them on your knees.

This Old Man

(Hold up the correct number of fingers for each verse; then pat knees on “knick knack,” clap hands on “paddywhack,” and roll hands over each other on “rolling home.”)

This old man, he played one,

He played knick-knack on my thumb,

With a knick-knack paddywhack,

Give a dog a bone,

This old man came rolling home.

Additional Verses

This old man, he played two,

He played knick-knack on my shoe ...

This old man, he played three,

He played knick-knack on my knee ...

This old man, he played four,

He played knick-knack on my door ...

This old man, he played five,

He played knick-knack on a hive ...

This old man, he played six,

He played knick-knack on my sticks ...

This old man, he played seven,

He played knick-knack up in heaven ...

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This old man, he played eight,
He played knick-knack on my gate ...

This old man, he played nine,
He played knick-knack on my vine ...

This old man, he played ten,
He played knick-knack once again ...

My Dog Rags

I have a dog and his name is Rags,
(Point to self)
He ate all his dinner, so his tummy sags,
(Pat tummy)

His ears flip-flop, and his tail wig-wags,
(Bend first left then right hand at wrist)
And when he walks, he goes zig-zag!
(Make imaginary "Z" with index finger)

He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
I love Rags, and he loves me!
(Point to imaginary dog, then to self)

My dog Rags, he loves to play. (Sway side to side)
He rolls around in the mud all day. (Roll arm over arm)
I whistle for him but he won't obey! (Put two fingers to mouth like whistling)
He always runs the other way. (Point thumb over shoulder)

He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
He goes flip-flop, (Flip-flop hands)
Wig-wag, (Wave one hand behind you for tail)
Zig-zag! (Wiggle hips)
I love Rags, and he loves me!
(Point to imaginary dog, then to self)

Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?

Oh where, oh where has my little dog gone?
(Put hand on brow and look around)
Oh where, oh where can he be?
(Hold hands out, palms up, and shrug shoulders)
With his ears cut short and his tail cut long,
(Point to ears, then wag hands behind back)
Oh where, oh where can he be?
(Hold hands out, palms up, and shrug shoulders)
(Repeat)

Library Storytime Song

(sung to the tune of "I've Been Workin' on the Railroad")

I came to my storytime (Sway side to side throughout and point to self)
At the library today,
I came to my storytime (Point to self)
To sing, and laugh, and play,
I listened to some picture books,
Sang songs, said some rhymes,
I hope I can come back again,
Because I had a very good time!
I want to come back, (Clap!)
I want to come back, (Clap!)
I want to come back to storytime!
I want to come back, (Clap!)
I want to come back, (Clap!)
To my storytime!
(Spoken) See you soon! (Wave goodbye)

Rhymes

I've Got a Dog

I've got a dog as thin as a rail,
(Hold hands close together to show "thin")
He's got fleas all over his tail. (Hold arm up like tail and brush fleas)
Every time his tail goes flop, (With arm up, wave hand as if to wag)
The fleas on the bottom all hop to the top. (With arm still up, point to elbow, then jump fingers up to hand)

Five Little Dogs

Five little dogs jumped up on the bed,
(Child jumps up and down in place)
One fell off and bumped his little head. (Touch or clutch head)
Mama called the vet, and the vet said, (Hold hand to ear like phone)
"No more dogs jumping up on the bed." (Wag finger "no")

Additional Verses

Four little dogs jumped up on the bed ... (Repeat motions as above)
Three little dogs jumped up on the bed ... (Repeat motions as above)
Two little dogs jumped up on the bed ... (Repeat motions as above)
One little dog jumped up on the bed ... (Repeat motions as above)

Five little dogs jumped up on the bed,
None fell off and bumped their little head,
(Spoken softly) Because they fell asleep.
(Finger to mouth in "shhh" gesture)

Three Playful Puppies

Three playful puppies in the pet store, (Hold up three fingers)
Waiting for you to come through the door.
Each puppy has a collar that's new. (Hands around neck like a collar)
Each puppy has a bowl that is blue. (Cup hands like a bowl)
Each puppy has a toy he can chew. (Pretend to chew on a toy)
Each puppy has love just for you. (Cross hands over heart)
Which playful puppy will you take from the store?
(Point to someone else)